

2/4/2011 - WEEK IN REVIEW – FEDERAL COURT ACTIVITY

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Indiana

Hammond, Indiana - The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Juan Briseno, 21, of Hammond, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 10 months imprisonment after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with being a drug user in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Omar Luna-Valencia, 33, a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to two years probation after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with reentry of a deported alien. This case was the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall Stewart.

Jose Santos, Jr., 25, of Hammond, Indiana, was sentenced by Chief Judge Philip Simon to 1 day, time served and 2 years probation of which 8 months is home detention after pleading guilty to count two of an indictment charging him with possession with the intent to distribute marijuana. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Michael Anthony Cox, 41, of Whiting, Indiana, was sentenced by Chief Judge Philip Simon to 2 years of probation and \$5,500 in restitution after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment, without the benefit of a plea agreement, charging him with use of a counterfeit access device. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Secret Service, the Whiting Police Department, and the Pokagon Band Tribal Police. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall Stewart.

Jason Ingram, 33, of Chicago, Illinois, was sentenced by Senior Judge James Moody to 30 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. Ingram has four prior felony convictions, including convictions for delivery of a controlled substance, unlawful use of a weapon, and two felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance. At the time of the arrest, Ingram was also on probation for a domestic battery conviction. Ingram has been in custody since his arrest in August 2009. This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force and Gary Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dean Lanter.

Ricardo Valenzuela, 28, Lafayette, Indiana, pled guilty before Senior Judge James Moody to count one of an indictment charging him with distribution of cocaine. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Rigoberto Rivas, 39, of Lafayette, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 10 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release if not deported after pleading guilty to count two of an indictment charging him with distribution of cocaine. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Lauro Loeza-Juarez, 26, of Lafayette, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 10 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release, if not deported, after pleading guilty to count three of an

indictment charging him with distribution of cocaine. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Lajuan Reynolds, 38, of Gary, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 3 years of probation and 60 hours of community service after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. Reynolds has a prior felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dean Lanter.

Horace Patterson, 35, of Gary, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to 5 months imprisonment, 5 months of home detention, and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Gary Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joshua Kola

Fort Wayne, IN - The United States Attorney's Office announced the following activity in federal court:

Kent Cooper, 35, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 70 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an information charging him with possession of crack cocaine. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tina Nommay.

Nathan Perez, 24, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 57 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with robbery involving a controlled substance. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Fort Wayne Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leslie Miller Lowery.

Thomas Cooper, 29, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 120 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count six of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Fort Wayne Police Department Gang Unit. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tina Nommay.

South Bend, IN—The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Denis Vilchez, 33, a citizen of Nicaragua, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Neuchterlein to count one of an indictment charging him with reentry of a deported alien. Sentencing has been set for 4/28/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.

Maria Mendoza, 49, of Cromwell, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Neuchterlein to count two of an indictment charging her with misuse of a social security number. Sentencing has been set for 4/21/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Social Security Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.

Daniel Nells, 46, of Rochester, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to time served and 4 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count two of an indictment charging him with possession with the intent

to manufacture marijuana. Nells was also fined \$2000. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

Juan Juarez-Bravo, 34, a citizen of Mexico , pled guilty before Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to count one of an indictment charging him with reentry of a deported alien. Sentencing has been set for 5/2/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.

Miguel Lopez, of South Bend, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Neuchterlein to count one of a superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute cocaine. Sentencing has been set for 5/10/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

Michael J. Jackson, 37, of South Bend, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 18 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to counts one and two of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. This case was the result of an investigation by Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Indiana State Police. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.